

## **Benefits of Home Maintenance**

The health of a home is a lot like our own personal health. If it is regularly checked and maintained, the chances of problems arising and the severity of them are often less. Some of the benefits of home maintenance include:

- Save money by eliminating avoidable repairs and failures.
- Extend the life of home components, equipment, and systems.
- Reduce safety and health risks in your home.
- Maximize your home's value and resale potential.
- Improve your home's appearance and appeal.
- Take pleasure in your beautiful home where everything works as designed.

Home maintenance includes everything from cleaning the interior and exterior of your home to repairs and replacements. It can be a job as small as checking your gutters for the accumulation of leaves to as large as replacing your siding or roof. Maintenance is ultimately the work necessary to keep your house in a good state of repair.

Things don't last forever. Carpet, roofing, bathroom fittings, and even siding, are all going to need replacing at some stage, and it is always good to consider this in your long-term budget. Some of these tasks you can do yourself and others might require professional assistance. Before starting a major project it is always a good idea to contact Buildings & Inspections at 281-275-2270 to determine if you need a permit.

Below are some good items to periodically check to ensure they are functioning properly.

- Roof: Visually check shingles from ground watching for missing or broken shingles and buckling. Check for evidence of leaks from the attic.
- Gutters and Downspouts. Check and remove any debris to assure unobstructed water flow away from foundation.
- Exterior Surfaces: With brick, watch for cracks, deteriorating bricks or masonry. Check all siding, soffit and fascia, for warping or rot. Check all painted surfaces to ensure adequate coating.
- Windows & Doors: Check for cracking or holes in caulking around doors and windows.
- Heating & Cooling: Make sure outside unit is unobstructed and clean.